

THURSDAY, December 8, 1791.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The bill respecting the fees of the attorney-general, and his deputies, on executions in certain cases, was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

The petition of sundry subscribers, inhabitants of Baltimore-town, was read, and referred to the committee appointed to bring in a bill for the more effectual punishment of criminals.

Mr. Oneale, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following reports.

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of James Haynie, report, that they have examined into the facts stated in said petition, and report, that the said James Haynie was appointed a collector of the tax for 1780; that the said James Haynie paid his fine rather than risk making the collection; that for the year 1781 he was appointed to collect for said county, much against his inclination, which he was obliged to undertake under the penalty of one hundred and fifty pounds; that he gave bond as such in the usual manner, and that by the act to raise the supplies for that year, which passed November session, 1780, a rate of thirty shillings was imposed on every hundred pounds worth of property. The committee further report; that by the act for the better security of the government, passed October session, 1777, a treble tax was imposed on all nonjurors, the operation of which was suspended by the acts of July, 1779; November, 1779, and June, 1780, and that the act of November, 1780, above mentioned, remitted all the treble tax affected by those suspensions; but by a further provision in this act, the treble tax which nonjurors were liable to pay for the year 1781, was required to be collected, except in cases where the commissioners of the tax should, in their discretion, suspend it. By the act of November session, 1782, chap. 13, all that part of the act for the better security of government which imposed a treble tax on nonjurors, was repealed. It appears therefore, that it was the petitioner's duty, as collector for 1781, to have collected from nonjurors in Somerset, a treble tax on the above rate of thirty shillings in the hundred, but the committee conceive, that as it was not collected in other counties in the state, and the petitioner, from the difficulties and opposition he experienced, could not collect it, the public ought not now to exact it from him; indeed his power of collection, as to the treble tax, ceased with the repeal of that part of the act for the better security of the government which imposed it, and of consequence, after November, 1782, he could not collect it from the people. It appears that a judgment was obtained against the petitioner, at the suit of the state, on his collector's bond, for arrears of single tax, and the whole of the treble tax; that he afterwards discharged the whole of the single tax due, and about £. 360 on the treble tax, and bonded to the state for the balance, including an interest, since which he has paid £. 560. Under all the circumstances of this case, the committee are of opinion, that the petitioner's bond ought to be delivered up, on his paying such parts of the treble tax as he may have received from the people, to be ascertained by the oath of said petitioner. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read.

The report on the petition of John Sewell, was read the second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Scott, Mr. Pinkney and Mr. Wright, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

The report on the petition of John Sewell, was read the second time, concurred with, and leave given to bring in a bill pursuant thereto. ORDERED, That Mr. Pinkney, Mr. Love and Mr. Oneale, be a committee to prepare and bring in the same.

On the second reading of the bill for the relief of sundry insolvent debtors, the question was put, That the name of William Hammond be struck out of the said bill? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. T. Ringgold, appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.					
Mc. Carroll,	Mercer,	Kerr,	Eccleston,	Holland,	Douglas,
Mc. Comegys,	Sherwood,	Frazier,	Dennis,	Key,	Whately,
N E G A T I V E.					
Hopewell,	McPherson,	Lecompte,	Quynn,	Burkhart,	Oneale,
T. Ringgold,	Chapman,	Miller,	Duvall,	Prall,	Crabb,
Scott,	Ridgely, of Wm.	R. Bond,	Seney,	Love,	Deakins,
J. Worthington,	Ridgely,	Hollingsworth,	Wright,	Pinkney,	Turner,
Chesley,	Cockey,	Oldham,	O'Bryon,	Wilson,	Beall,
T. Gantt, jun.	Gibson,	Bowie,	Barnes,	Loockerman,	Crelap,
T. Harwood,	Waggaman,	T. Marshall,	J. P. Marshall,	Ott,	Tomlinson,
Craik,	Denwood,	Clark,	Beatty,	Swearingen,	Jacob,
Hawkins,	Lowes,	T. Gantt,	P. Smith,		

So it was determined in the negative.

On motion, the question was put, That the name of Benjamin Nicholson be struck out of said bill? The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Ridgely, of Wm. appeared as follow:

A F F I R M A T I V E.					
Mc. Comegys,	Cockey,	Bowie,	J. P. Marshall,	Whately,	Tomlinson,
Ridgely, of Wm.	Lowes,	T. Marshall,	Prall,	S. Smith,	Wilson,
Ridgely,	Frazier,	Barnes,			

N E G A